



## TaskStream in Teacher Education

The TaskStream Tools of Engagement are web-based tools for K-12 learning communities and teacher education programs. For teacher education programs, the institution, the instructor, and the teacher candidate all benefit from this all-in-one family of integrated tools.

**Faculty and administrators** - manage and distribute course materials, review student work and track student progress, create portfolio templates and assess students' portfolios online, develop curriculum, easily reference state and national standards, and prepare assessment rubrics. TaskStream's reporting tools aggregate and disaggregate data for accreditation support.

**Students/Teacher Candidates** - submit work for review and evaluation, receive feedback from instructors, and author standards-based lessons and units. TaskStream's Web Folio Builder makes it easy for students to create, organize, and share electronic portfolios that demonstrate standards compliance for certification.

### ***Instructional Design***

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Teacher candidates utilize integrated instructional design tools - **Unit Builder, Lesson Builder, Standards Manager, and Rubric Wizard** - to develop standards-based learning activities. Instructors customize templates, create sample curriculum for their students, and easily align curriculum with certification and accreditation standards.

### ***Web Publication***

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The **Web Folio Builder** and the **Web Page Builder** provide powerful electronic portfolio and web page creation tools. Teacher candidates create electronic portfolios to organize and present their work. Faculty members develop web pages to distribute information to their students such as course assignments, syllabi, and sample curriculum activities. Instructors customize portfolio templates to serve as a final requirement toward certification.

### ***Course Management***

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Instructors create online programs through which they distribute course materials and review student work. Teacher candidates access these class resources in the **My Programs** area and submit work to their instructors online.

### ***Communication and Resources***

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Email and instant messaging systems facilitate collaboration, and faculty members establish discussion groups and post announcements for their classes to support multiple modes of communication. Both students and instructors take advantage of TaskStream's **Cybrary**, an online resource library, which includes searchable databases of lesson plans, standards, tutorials, and educational web sites.

LEARN MORE: Tour the TaskStream tools at [www.taskstream.com](http://www.taskstream.com).

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## New! Portfolio Assessment System for 2003

TaskStream now includes an online portfolio assessment system to facilitate teacher candidate evaluation and institutional accreditation. This adaptable system provides the solution for managing, evaluating, and assessing electronic portfolios. Assessment data can be organized and aggregated for individual certification and institutional accreditation support.

### Teacher Candidates

- Create electronic portfolios to showcase and document competencies and experiences.
- Share a single artifact or an entire portfolio with instructors and advisors for feedback and review online.
- Submit a section of a portfolio or the entire body of work for evaluation online.
- Track progress towards certification.

Web Page Builder Jane Jones  
Help | Back View Published Web Address

Pre-Service Teaching Portfolio

1 View Requirements 2 Choose Style 3 Edit Content 4 Sharing and Evaluation

STEP 3 Click to view directions E-mail Publish to Web Preview

Pre-Service Teaching Portfolio [Request Comment] [Comments requested 8/24/02, 8/28/02] Evaluated Score 3.25/4.0 [View full report]

Phase 1: Preparing to Teach

- Task 1: Philosoph Education
- Task 2: Observati New Comments!

Phase 2: Student Tea

- Task 4: Lesson Plan Evaluated New Comments!
- Task 5: Unit Plan
- Task 6: Child Study

Comments

New! Fred Peters 9/13/02  
Jane, your lesson plan demonstrates a wonderful understanding of how to excite students about history. The connection to their own family history provides them with the perfect real-world, meaningful entry into the use of primary document to create history.

Task 4: Lesson Plan  
Task 4 requires you to select a single lesson plan you prepared and subsequently implemented in your student teaching. The lesson you select should demonstrate how you are able to put those into

### Professors and Administrators

- Create a customized portfolio structure that clearly identifies the requirements that teaching candidates must satisfy.
- Track students' progress as they submit artifacts to their portfolios; review and comment on individual artifacts or a student's entire body of work.
- Evaluate individual artifacts or the entire portfolio to assess competency with respect to certification requirements.
- Generate progress reports documenting individual submissions and scores, as well as the progress of the entire class.
- Organize, aggregate, and disaggregate data required for the accreditation process.

My Programs Pe  
Help | Switch Program Elementary Track

Overview Program Resources Work to Review

Review Home » Evaluation

Page 1 of 4 Go to Page Go Previous

University of Michigan Teaching Portfolio

Show: Status & Scores

Phase 1: Preparing to Teach

	Task 1		Task 2		Task 3
	Status	Score	Status	Score	
Mark Smith [Send/Read Comments]	Submitted	0.00	Submitted	0.00	Submitted
Jane Jones [Send/Read Comments]	Submitted	3.00	Submitted	3.00	Submitted

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## TaskStream and Accreditation

There are many organizations that strive to improve the quality of today's classroom teachers. Four organizations that contribute to the accreditation of new teachers are NCATE (The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education), INTASC (The Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium), TEAC (The Teacher Education Accreditation Council), and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

These organizations establish high quality teacher preparation programs through a performance-based system of accreditation and uphold rigorous standards for teacher education programs. Institutions that seek accreditation are required to demonstrate compliance with these standards.

For example, NCATE states, "In NCATE's performance-based accreditation system, institutions must provide evidence of competent teacher candidate performance. NCATE accredited colleges of education are expected to ensure that teacher candidates know their subject and how to teach it effectively."

With hundreds of courses and thousands of students, this is no simple feat. TaskStream has created a suite of tools designed to manage the accreditation process. Using TaskStream's Web Folio Builder, teacher candidates create electronic portfolios to organize their work by standards, courses, or a format specified by the college or university. Faculty review these portfolios and offer feedback. TaskStream's new portfolio assessment system provides the means for faculty and administrators to evaluate individual portfolios and aggregate data for accreditation purposes.

To provide evidence of candidate performance, both on the individual and program level, professors and college administrators use TaskStream's Standards Manager to generate gap and frequency analysis reports on candidate portfolios to assess competency and determine strengths and weaknesses of the program.

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## TaskStream Case Studies

### ***TaskStream in a Pre-Service Methods Course***

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Professor Robinson teaches a methods course at a College of Education. His 300 students are required to subscribe to TaskStream; they use the Instructional Design tools to create standards-aligned lesson and unit plans that incorporate course content and include authentic assessment rubrics. Students submit their lessons online to Professor Robinson and their TA's for evaluation. Working through TaskStream's interactive commenting exchange, the TA's provide feedback and suggestions to the students. Students extend classroom discussions outside of class time as they respond to weekly prompts on the Discussion Board.

The Lesson Builder is my favorite tool on TaskStream!! And the wizards! They are awesome.  
-College Student

### ***Pre-Service Teacher Electronic Portfolio Creation***

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Catherine is completing a post-baccalaureate program and is currently looking for employment as a high school science teacher. As part of the course requirements, she has used TaskStream to create units and lessons. With TaskStream's Web Folio Builder, Catherine creates a portfolio for certification/graduation requirements. This portfolio includes lesson and unit plans, essays on teaching philosophy, digital photos of her student teaching experiences, and a scanned image of her results on the Praxis exam. Catherine publishes her portfolio to the World Wide Web and submits it to her advisor. She makes a copy of this portfolio to create a second version that will serve as an employment portfolio; to this portfolio she adds a copy of her resume and recommendations from professors. She emails a link to this portfolio to prospective employers.

I think we have a hit on our hands.  
-College Instructor

### ***Accreditation Standards Portfolio***

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Dr. Alford is the Assessment Director for a large NCATE-accredited College of Education. She must maintain records documenting that the education program address NCATE standards. Using TaskStream, she has created a web folio organizing the College of Education's courses by NCATE standards. Professors submit examples of their class assignments as well as exemplary student work produced in these courses. Dr. Alford collects this work and organizes it in the web folio; she uses this during NCATE visits to demonstrate how the required standards and guidelines are integrated into the College of Education course of study.

TaskStream has proven to be an invaluable tool for our pre-service students.  
-Senior Researcher

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## Instructional Design

The Instructional Design tools provide a structure in which education students transform theory and course content into curriculum for the classroom.

### Lesson and Unit Builders

Students design lessons and units using digital templates and submit them online for review by instructors. Lessons may include standards, assessment rubrics, web links, and uploaded documents. The Unit Builder provides educators with the ability to sequence a series of lessons. The templates for both the Lesson Builder and Unit Builder can be customized upon request.

### Standards Manager

TaskStream maintains a comprehensive database of state and national standards. When creating lessons and units, educators and pre-service teachers map standards directly into the template to document alignment. These standards may be related to either the content in the activity or to teacher accreditation standards (such as INTASC). Students and professors create frequency and gap analysis reports to document which standards have been satisfied.

### Rubric Wizard

Students create performance-based rubrics with the interactive Rubric Wizard. Students choose sample performance criteria from a subject-indexed database of exemplary rubrics and edit the text to precisely fit their needs, or they write their own criteria. Once created, rubrics can be imported into lessons and units or added to digital portfolios.

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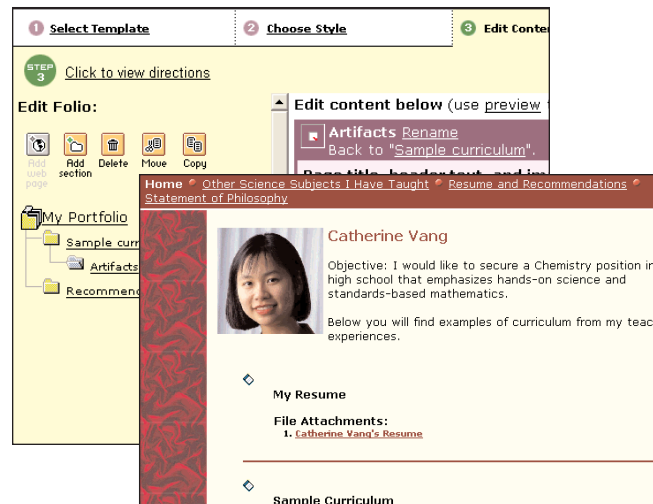
## Web Publication

TaskStream provides the tools for educators to easily publish electronic portfolios and personal web pages to the Internet. With TaskStream's web publishing tools, students compile, reflect upon, and showcase their work for others to see. Instructors use these tools to create a course web page through which they can distribute course materials and resources to students.

### Web Folio Builder

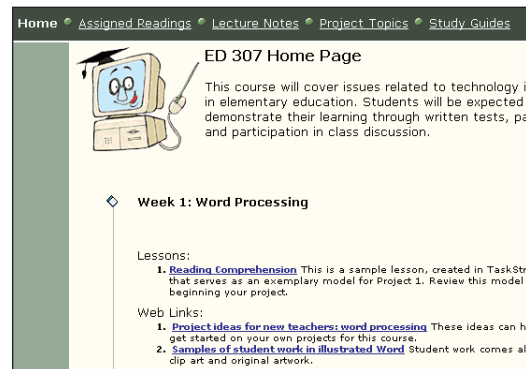
Students create electronic portfolios for a variety of purposes including: evaluation within a course or program, certification, and employment. Flexible and easy to use portfolios can be organized according to the student's needs or the requirements of a program.

Students submit portfolios to instructors and advisors online for feedback and evaluation. After graduation, beginning teachers can edit and update their portfolios to reflect current best practices and experiences.



### Web Page Builder

With the Web Page Builder, students publish their own web pages without time-consuming programming. TaskStream provides a series of templates that make it easy to design and maintain education-related web pages such as a class web page, a newsletter, and a course syllabus. Student teachers develop web sites for the classrooms in which they are teaching to keep parents informed of classroom activities and to display student work.



Instructors create course web pages that contain such resources as course syllabi and materials to distribute to students. Web pages can be continuously updated with new resources.

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## Course Management

The TaskStream environment is empowering and effective because it is authentic: new skills are learned and immediately applied to the creation of classroom activities. The My Programs area provides a dynamic work space for accessing course materials and submitting work online.

### Submission/Response (My Programs)

In the **My Programs** area, instructors share course resources, create collaborative student groups, access and review student work, and provide feedback to students through the interactive commenting feature. As students complete course requirements, their progress is easily tracked.

**Interactive commenting** facilitates true dialogue as students direct questions and comments to instructors related to the work they are submitting and instructors respond online. With the addition of line item commenting, feedback is linked directly to relevant sections. The dialogue is saved so that students and instructors can keep track of their on-going discussions regarding each piece of work.

Help | Switch Program | **EDU204 - Educational Technology in Elementary Ed.**

Overview | Program Resources | Work to Review

» Welcome to EDU204 - Educational Technology in Elementary Ed.  
This course covers the philosophies of technology-rich education as well as practical uses of educational technology in elementary education. Students will enhance their basic computer skills and learn how to assess various software for their classrooms.

Group Members ([Click here](#) for a list of all program participants.)

Section A - MWF 8am-9am

Masha Bouwmeister (Author)

Comment Area Close window

Add a comment:

Okay. I will come up with some specific prompts that I can use in the interviewing and criteria for the responses I can use for evaluation.

Spell Check Submit

Previous Comments

Author: Shobha Narine 8/16/2002 7:21:14 AM

### Administration (TS Coordinator)

The **TS Coordinator** is a management tool used to build and manage entire programs and individual courses. With the TS Coordinator, program administrators and course instructors:

- Distribute course resources
- Create templates for electronic portfolios
- View lessons and units created by students
- Track standards met by students
- Manage discussion boards
- Post announcements and calendar events
- Monitor site activity

Curriculum/Resource Management	Program Management
<p>View individuals' completed and in progress lesson and unit plans. Share resource folios, and create and distribute target sets.</p> <p><b>Curricular Activity</b></p> <p>» <a href="#">View Lesson and Unit Plans</a></p> <p><b>Share Resources/Curriculum</b></p> <p>» <a href="#">Share/Unshare Resource Folio(s)</a></p> <p><b>Standards</b></p> <p>» <a href="#">Share/Unshare Target Set(s)</a></p> <p>» <a href="#">Track Standards Usage</a></p>	<p>Create and manage programs for collaboration among reviewers and authors. See progress and interactions in TS8-Step programs.</p> <p><b>Program Manager</b></p> <p>» <a href="#">Create New Program</a></p> <p>» <a href="#">Manage Your Programs</a></p> <p><b>Program Activity</b></p> <p>» <a href="#">View TS8-Step Activity</a></p>
Account Management	Communication Management
<p>Monitor site activity and see information on registered members. Access forms to register new members and assign new Site Coordinators.</p> <p><b>Site Activity</b></p> <p>» <a href="#">Who has logged in recently</a></p> <p>» <a href="#">Site Activity Reports</a></p> <p><b>Registration Information</b></p> <p>» <a href="#">View Registration Reports</a></p> <p>» <a href="#">Download New Account Form</a></p>	<p>Manage discussion categories and topics. Post and delete announcements and calendar events.</p> <p><b>Discussion Board</b></p> <p>» <a href="#">Create and/or Edit Discussions</a></p> <p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p>» <a href="#">Post New Announcement</a></p> <p>» <a href="#">Delete An Announcement</a></p> <p><b>Calendar</b></p>

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## Communication and Resources

### Communication

One of the most powerful capabilities technology offers is enhanced communication. TaskStream's communication tools provide students and instructors with the facility to communicate and collaborate online efficiently and effectively.

**Announcements:** Program coordinators and instructors post announcements to all students or to a specified subset.

**Discussion Board:** Students take part in discussions with instructors and peers about posted topics. These discussions may be course-specific, program-specific, or open to the entire community.

**Message Center:** TaskStream's internal email system provides a mechanism for instructors and students to communicate directly.

**TS Messenger:** An online instant messaging system makes it easy to interact online in real time by identifying those users currently logged into the site.

**Calendar:** Instructors and program coordinators post events to students' calendars, enabling them to plan accordingly.

### Resources (Cybrary)

A wealth of educational, web-based materials and resources is available in the **Cybrary** to support technology-rich, standards-based teaching.

**Lesson Database:** Students and faculty access this searchable collection of teacher-created lesson plans created by TaskStream subscribers. Lessons of interest can be copied into one's own collection and modified to address specific needs. All lessons published to the Cybrary maintain attribution to the original author, even when modified by others.

**Educational Websites:** A searchable database of education-oriented web links, selected by TaskStream, makes finding the right resources easy.

**Software:** TaskStream's collection of recommended software for download, both free and trial versions, encourages educators to experiment with new technology.

**Tutorials:** TaskStream offers tutorials for learning a variety of software applications. These self-guided resources provide step-by-step instructions for learning new skills and implementing those skills directly into classroom activities. The tutorials are designed to be completed in approximately 40 - 45 minutes.